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DEC 14 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR POLICY COORDINATION

SUBJECT: General Giancarlo Re's Interest in Albanian Operations.

1. On 29 November 1950 General Giancarlo Re, chief of the Italian SIFAR (Italian Combined Intelligence Services), informed one of our staff officers () that he had asked British Second Secretary Kenneth C. Benton concerning the result of British infiltration operations into Albania which Benton previously had indicated were being planned. Although General Re had not as yet received any reply from Benton, he expressed the belief that the British had carried out infiltration operations into Albania either by sea or overland from Greece in the very recent past.

2. In reply to a direct inquiry from General Re, Benton stated that the British were not responsible for the dropping of propaganda leaflets over Albania which has been the basis for recent Albanian charges against Italy.

3. General Re mentioned that observation in Rome of the activities of () and representatives of the Committee for Free Albania indicated that the two Britishers were working together with an American, who was not identified. At the same time General Re said that an unidentified Albanian who had been in the United States for a long time had recently arrived in Rome and appeared to be taking an active part in Free Albania activities; it was intimated that the name of this person would be passed to us shortly.

4. Italian intelligence, according to General Re, has recently received information that Abas Ermeni is in contact with Communist elements in France. When it was suggested that the British would be primarily interested in any such report, General Re agreed and said that he intended to pass this information to them in the near future.

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5. In view of the source of this report, it is urgently requested that no further dissemination be given to it and that no action be taken on the basis of it without first clearing with this Office.


Assistant Director
Special Operations

SO DB-32091

Written 7 December 1950

GMF:ejb

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